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“Taking pedestrians into account in urban policies - Examples from Lyon, Saint Etienne, Saint Denis and Copenhagen.”

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Abstract

Urban policies in European cities have integrated the comfort of their inhabitants, particularly the pedestrians as a main objective. Public spaces’ planning has consequently become a full discipline. However, many questions remain to be answered, when considering the general will and the realizations:

- Historic sites and city centres are given a lot of attention. What about the other areas, less prestigious, where city dwellers actually live?
- Should we not seek specific answers to each city’s unique context?
- We redevelop squares and public gardens... and give better answers to the sedentary use. But how can we answer to the importance of mobility in the propositions?
- Is a town’s destiny to become a pedestrian precinct?
- A public space is an area of all use, of all contradictions and belonging to all. How to integrate this complexity and make it a medium for democratic life?

I will approach some of these questions which I found myself confronted to, presenting examples from cities I worked or have worked for as a technical adviser.

Biography

Jean Pierre Charbonneau graduated in Engineering “Arts et Métiers”, from (1970-1974). He is presently a Town Planner SFU, and has served on many projects as a Technical Consultant all throughout France.

Most Recent Projects:

Since 2001, Jean Pierre Charbonneau served as Technical consultant to Gilles Buna, Alderman for town planning of the City of Lyon and Vice-Chairman of Grand Lyon with responsibility for town planning. He has also served as Technical adviser of Martine Aubry, mayor of Lille, commissioned to assist in the explanation of the City project, in the organization of the human means (reorientation of the tasks of the engineering departments) and to advise in the setting and the following of the operations till their final achievement

Since 2000, Technical consultant to the city of Saint-Denis, commissioned to conceive the urban project of the town centre (100 ha) with technical departments.

Since 1996, he has served as Technical Consultant to Michel Thiollière, Mayor of Saint-Etienne (tenth biggest French town), defining and organizing the urban policy, linked to the cultural policy.

Jean Pierre Charbonneau has also played important key roles on the following projects that focused on the elaboration of several urban policies concerning european and latin american cities:

In 2002, he was the Adviser of the Planning Public Establishment Plaine de France, an organism charged to help in the development of the north of the urban area of Paris (33 towns). He has also participated on the Expert evaluation on behalf of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs on the urban and social evolution of the town centre of Saint Domingue (Dominican Republic), within the framework of the Sirchal program.

In 2001, commissioned, by the SEM Paris Rive Gauche, to propose a cultural and social development project adapted to the urban policy and reinforcing it. Also present at the Expert evaluation on behalf of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs on the urban and social evolution of the historical centre of Baranquilla (Colombia), within the framework of the Sirchal program (from 1989 to 2001).

Jean Pierre Charboneau provided Tecnical Consultancy to the Department of Architecture and Heritage (Ministry of Cultural Affairs), commissioned by François Barré to advise the department on the definition of a development policy of quality concerning architecture, town planning and landscape in France. Also, commissioned, by the city of Cergy, to help in elaborating an urban policy particularly concerning public spaces. Participated on the Expert evaluation on behalf of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs to appreciate the development of the historical center of Salvador de Bahia (Brasil), within the framework of the Sirchal program; and on the Expert evaluation on behalf of Europandom to appreciate Cayenne (Guyana).

Technical councilor to the Regional Department of Equipment of Ile de France to improve the development of main urban roads, particularly for the Departmental Works department of the Val de Marne (setting up methods of working, supervision, and following studies and projects through).

Commissioned by the Planning Public Establishment of Marseilles (Euroméditerranée) to assist in the implementation of the development processes in its area (substructures, mixed housing

development zone, public spaces, completed projects in existing districts), commissioned to draw up a report on the cultural aspects of this process(1999).

Technical advisor to the director of the urban planning department in Grenoble, organizing the urban development policy (public spaces, public transports, socially challenged districts, main substructures, new expansion districts, public consultation structures)1998.

In 1997, Technical advisor with Vezio De Lucia, head of the urban planning department of Naples, commissioned to propose the content and the method of urban development policy (public spaces, public transport, traffic junctions, main substructures, boulevards...). Also, Technical advisor for "Mission Paris Seine Amont" (Ministry of Equipment) to improve the quality and to define the strategy and the methodology in the implementation of the development of this area composed of 20 towns of the Paris Region. Advisor with the Public Establishment (EPAD) for the development of Paris La Défense, commissioned to study the extension of the major trunk road (Paris-La Défense-Nanterre).

During 1995 and 1996 he participated on several expert evaluations on urban problems of various european towns : Treviso, Lille, Namur, Brussels, Rome(...). He provided Technical consultancy to the Public Development Establishment of the "Etang de Berre" (Marseilles) in its project for the urban extension of the northern districts of Marseilles.

Jean Pierre Charbonneau has lectured, focusing on public spaces and urban policies, in several European Universities, Foundations and Unions. He is also presently an Invited member of the scientific committee of the Architecture School of Grenoble. Mr. Charbonneau is also a member of the scientific committee post-graduate design of Fine Arts School in Lyon and of the board of examiners European Dom 2000. Membership of the editorial staff of the magazine "Urbanisme".

ARTICLES, REVIEWS

Main articles since 2000

Revue Urbanisme, « Lyon et Saint-Etienne, la politique de l'espace public », mars 2000.

Revue Urbanisme, "Jardins de proximité", septembre 2000.

Revue Topos, "La connaissance comme moteur du projet", Munich, 2001.

Revue Urbanisme, "Illégalité et bien public", 2001.

User, observer, programmer et fabriquer de l'espace public, INSA 2001 "Témoignage" Lyon.

Keichi Tahara, œuvre, 2001. Préface.

Edilizia Popolare, "La politique de développement social urbain du Grand Lyon", 2001

Revue Urbanisme, "Le temps, matériau de la transformation urbaine", 2001

Revue Urbanisme, "Corps et urbanisme", 2002

Revue Topos, "Légalité et intérêt public", 2002

Revue Pierre d'Angle, "Saint-Etienne, patrimoines pluriels et développement urbain", 2002

Revue Urbanisme, « La ville-mouvement », 2003

BOOKS

Since 1994

Co-author of « Espaces publics, espaces de vie » Horwarth editions ;

Artistic co-director of « Les lumières de Lyon » Horwarth editions ;

Author of « Arts de Villes », commande de la Direction de l'Architecture et de l'Urbanisme du Ministère de l'Equipement, Horwarth editions ;

Co-author of a card « Circuits d'espaces publics du Grand Lyon » ;

Co-author of « La politique de développement social urbain du Grand Lyon » ;

Direction of the book « Lyon, ville écrite », Stock editions ;

Co-direction of « Lyon Quartiers BD », Glénat editions ;

Author of "Transformation des villes, mode d'emploi", éditions de l'Epure, nov. 2000